

Joan T. Schmelz and John C. Brown, *The Sun: A Laboratory for Astrophysics*,
NATO ASI Series C: Mathematical and Physical Sciences, Vol. 373, 617 +
xiv pp., 1992, hardbound, Dfl. 395.-, \$ 234.-, £ 139.-, ISBN 0-7923-1811-0.

This NATO ASI volume is somewhat unusual in solar physics, since it contains the proceedings of a tutorial “Advanced Study Institute” (held in 1991 at Crieff, Scotland) rather than of an expert workshop. The book is split into four parts: I – Solar Interior, II – Solar and Stellar Atmospheres, III – Solar Instrumentation, IV – Solar and Stellar Activity. The 27 chapters cover much of solar physics and solar-related stellar astrophysics, from nuclear reactions in the solar core to accretion-disk flares. The result is an excellent, up to date and authoritative textbook at the graduate level. Each chapter has much to offer to both senior students and professionals. The book is well produced; I recommend it highly. Unfortunately, it is too expensive to serve the primary readership it is intended for. It is certainly too costly to be owned by graduate students and probably too costly for many libraries.

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